

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: P. Bonutti

Attorney Docket No.: 782-A03-003-1

Application No.: To Be Assigned  
(Continuation of App. No.: 09/556,458)  
Filed: Herewith

Group Art Unit:  
Examiner:

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SECURING TISSUE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313

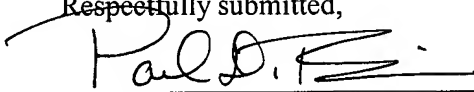
Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of C.F.R. § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information, which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the application.

A revised Form PTO/SB/08 listing all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration is enclosed. Copies of the listed documents from prior Application No.: 09/556,458, filed May 3, 2000, of which this application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120, are not being submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be prior art, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) before the latter of three months after the U.S. patent application filing date or the first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee or certification is required.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dated: July 7, 2003   
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete If Known		
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number		
				Filing Date		
				First Named Inventor		
				Group Art Unit		
				Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	782-A03-003-1	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	3,513,848		Winston et al.	05-26-70	
	AB	3,657,056		Winston et al.	04-18-72	
	AC	4,662,068		Polonsky	05-05-87	
	AD	5,527,343		Bonutti	06-18-96	
	AE	5,534,012		Bonutti	07-09-96	
	AF	5,626,612		Bartlett	05-06-97	
	AG	5,718,717		Bonutti	02-17-98	
	AH	5,823,994		Sharkey et al.	10-20-98	
	AI	5,928,267		Bonutti et al.	07-27-99	
	AJ	5,948,002		Bonutti	09-07-99	
	AK	5,964,765		Fenton, Jr. et al	10-12-99	
	AL	5,968,047		Reed	10-19-99	
	AM	5,989,282		Bonutti	11-23-99	
	AN	5,993,477		Vaitekunas et al.	11-30-99	
	AO	6,010,525		Bonutti et al.	01-04-00	
Examiner				Date Considered		

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIP Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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